

Casting supplies, services, and information

(List and opinions courtesy of Cynthia Morgan)

Arizona Sculpture

4665 South Ash Ave, Suite G-15

Tempe, AZ 85282

1-888-967-7727

<http://www.arizonasculpture.com/>

Good prices on waxes, mold- and model-making tools, clays (including wax clay), life casting supplies, patinas, all kinds of stuff

ART Studio Clay Company

9320 Michigan Avenue

Sturtevant, WI 53177-2435

262-884-4278

<http://www.artclay.com>

Very nice ceramics supply house with a full assortment of tools, kilns, clays and raw materials.

Ball Consulting Ltd.

Ambridge, PA

(800) 225-2673

<http://www.ball-consulting-ltd.com/>

Sculpting supplies, including oil and wax clays, alginates, lots of stone materials.

Bullseye Glass Resource Center

3610 SE 21st Ave.

Portland OR 97202

888.220.3002

<http://www.bullseyeglass.com>

Plaster/silica investment, box casting kits, glass casting billets and cullet metal foils, kiln wash, really wonderful lampworking rods, etc. Very, very good about finding the answers to your questions and figuring out how to make their glass do what you need.

Cast Glass Forms

93639 Elk River Rd.

Port Orford, OR 97465 USA

541-332-0162

<http://www.castglassforms.com/>

Casting expert Hugh McKay makes custom molds for sculptors (and other artists), and provides full-spectrum glass casting services

Cementex Latex Corp

121 Varick Street.

New York, NY 10013

800-782-9056 / 212-741-1770

<http://www.cementex.com/>

Nice (if unillustrated) tutorials on moldmaking, sells resins, release agents, latex, modeling clay, Cabosil for mother molds, alginates for life casting, etc.

Compleat Sculptor

90 Vandam Street

New York, NY 10013

800-9-SCULPT

<http://www.sculpt.com/>

Badly organized website but an excellent array of sculpting and casting tools, clays, waxes and other materials. One of the best batches of sculpting tools I've seen. They're changing their website to compleatsculptor.com at some point.

Cynthia Morgan

<http://www.morganica.com/bloggery>

Well, I had to get my name in here somewhere, right? ;-) My blog discusses my current casting and pate de verre projects, includes an updated version of this list and goes over technical problems. (as well as a lot of other stuff)

Farwest Materials

405 Woodland Ave.

Walla Walla, WA 99362

(509) 522-0556

<http://www.farwestmaterials.com/>

Many different types of mold and model-making supplies, including urethanes, silicones, latex, and polysulfide rubber, oil- and water-based clays, waxes, release agents, etc.

France Casting

1713 Willox Court, Unit A

Fort Collins, Colorado 80524

(970) 221-4044

<http://www.francecasts.com/>

Ecorche (live-size reference models) and other castings of human and animal bones. Assorted races, ages, medical conditions, both sexes, extremely realistic. Very useful for to see where bones or muscles attach when sculpting, or for incorporating impressions into your work. Warning: These are skilled reproductions from the real thing, so they're not cheap. If all you're looking for is, say, a skull for Halloween, there are cheaper places to find them.

Gaffer Glass USA

19622 70th Avenue South Unit #4

Kent, WA 98032

800-395-7600

<http://www.gafferglassusa.com/>

Truly beautiful lead crystal billets in a variety of colors. Very helpful staff, but it's wise to call and ask before using a new glass from Gaffer—they can have very precise heating requirements and the website doesn't always spell them out.

Georgie's Ceramics

756 NE Lombard St

Portland, OR 97211

(503) 283-1353

<http://www.georgies.com/>

Clays (including paper clays), plasticine, sculpture equipment and supplies, really great tools, raw materials for investments (such as #1 pottery plaster and silica flour), sculpting wax. Very helpful people, too.

GlassFacts casting calculator

http://www.glassfacts.info/glass/castvol.asp?vol_amt=59&vol_type=ci

Handy calculator lets you enter volume of your casting model, then tells you how much glass you'll need (by weight) in crystal, soda lime or float.

Lash Quality Molds and Sculpture Supplies Inc.

4702 NE 102nd

Portland, OR 97220

(503) 251-6959

Expert mold-maker, also sells armature wire, waxes, some clays and other supplies

National Sculpture Society (NSS)

237 Park Avenue

New York, NY 10017

212-764-5645

<http://nationalsculpture.org>

National (well, sometimes international) organization of figurative sculptors, holds exhibitions, competitions and produces Sculpture Review, a magazine of figurative sculpture. They have their own (huge) resource list at <http://www.sculptorresources.com>.

Olympic Color Supply

818 John Street
Seattle, WA 98109
206-343-7336

<http://www.glasscolor.com/>

Casting refractories including Ransom & Randolph 910, 965, etc., Luminar Mold Mix 6, Castalot, plus casting crystal (Reichenbach, Gaffer, Spectrum 96). If you're in Seattle, the store's worth a visit just for the specials.

Pacific Northwest Sculptors Assn.

<http://www.pnwsculptors.org/>

Sculptors' guild in Oregon/Washington that holds regular meetings, arranges for member discounts on supplies, has exhibits. Also has its own resource list (<http://www.pnwsculptors.org/resources.htm>) that's really good if you live in glassland.

Philippe Faraut Studios

PO Box 722
Honeoye, NY 14471
(585) 229-2976

<http://www.philippefaraut.com/>

Really marvelous portrait sculpting instruction, on DVD, in workshops and in books. If you're interested in sculpting human faces at all, and have a chance to take a class from Philippe, jump on it. NOW. His videos are detailed and informative, but not as great as working with him in person. Site also sells some of his sculpting tools and stands.

PinkHouse Studios Lifecasting

35 Bank St.
St. Albans VT 05478
(802) 524-7191

<http://www.pinkhouse.com/>

Lifecasting supplies, including Reducit (which shrinks your lifecasts) and Expandit (which grows them to double-size).

Ransom-Randolph Glass Casting Supplies

3535 Briarfield Blvd
Maumee, OH 43537
(419)794-1290

<http://www.glass-cast.com/>

Casting investments (R&R910, R&R965, R&R400, etc), each formulated for specific casting requirements. Site also includes an interesting glass casting gallery, tutorials.

Remet

210 Commons Rd.
Utica, NY 13502-6395
(315) 797-8700

<http://remet.com/>

They have a division specializing in waxes, and they're primarily focused on metal casting, but they sell just about anything you could want—waxes, refractories, abrasives, hardeners. They also have some very interesting technical papers.

Sculpture Depot

418 8th Street
Loveland, CO 80537
800-260-4690

<http://www.sculpturedepot.net/>

Supplies, books, videos, materials for the sculptor. One of the few places I've found that has good hot wax working tools (although, frankly, my crossover electronics equipment, i.e., soldering station with a couple extra tips, works just as well). They also hold workshops in various sculpting media and list sculpting classes at other locations.

Sculpture House

(609)466-2986

<http://sculpturehouse.com/>

Sculpture tools and supplies including some really interesting clay tools, clays and armatures.

Sculpture House Casting

155 W. 26th Street
New York, NY 10001
212-645-3717

<http://www.sculptshop.com>

Some really cool tools, clays, plasters for the sculptor, very complete product lists for all kinds of media.

Seattle Pottery Supply

35 S. Hanford St.
Seattle, WA 98134
800-522-1975

<http://www.seattlepotterysupply.com/>

Oil- and water-based clays for sculpting, sculpting tools and supplies, raw materials for making investments. They offer very good prices on custom-mixed plaster/silica packed in individual 50-lb bags and will ship up to 4,000 pounds at a time to Portland for a flat rate. Takes about 10 days from order to receipt.

Silpak Inc.

470 E Bonita
Pomona, CA 91767
(909) 625-0056

<http://www.silpak.com/>

Primarily flexible mold-making materials such as RTV, urethane, casting resins, latex

Smooth-on

2000 Saint John Street
Easton, PA 18042
800-762-0744

<http://www.smooth-on.com/>

Fabulous tutorials and videos on making molds, life casts, mother molds, etc. These guys have literally written the book(s) on flexible mold-making and they're extremely eager to help. The site is a bit confusing, but very information-rich. Unless you know precisely what you want, search for a project demo that LOOKS like what you want to do, and then track back the supplies list to figure out what you actually want to buy. Or save time by just calling them to ask.

Stephenson Pattern Supply

3223 NW Guam
Portland, OR 97210
(503) 228-1222

<http://www.stephensonpattern.com/>

Refractories, mold-making supplies, RTV, huge selection of waxes, many types of latex and rubber, etc. (and they're very good about working with you to solve a mold problem). Also have extensive lists of model and mold-makers in glassland (including metal foundries). Extremely nice folk who will spend a lot of time helping you solve a mold-making problem if you go there in person (and can also let you in on closeouts).

TAP Plastics

Stores all over the west coast

<http://www.tapplastics.com/>

Acrylic forms, fiberglass fabric and chopped fibers, RTV silicon, lots of interesting stuff to use for models and molds. Good online catalog. Employees in most stores are very helpful, but different stores emphasize different products and have slightly different stock and clearance items, so if there's more than one store in your area, it pays to visit them all.

Twin Vision (Rowe Twins) website

<http://www.twinvision.fusedglassartists.com/>

Canadian artists (and twins) Melanie and Leslie Rowe talk about their work in glass casting and how they do their stuff.

Uroboros Glass

2139 N. Kerby Ave.
Portland, OR 97227
503-284-4900

<http://www.uroboros.com/>

Uroboros 90 and 96 casting billet, Uroboros Glass Mix (outer mold casting investment), and plaster-silica mold mix. Exceptionally nice folk who go out of their way to help.

Western Industrial Ceramics

10725 SW Tualatin-Sherwood Rd.
Tualatin, OR 97062
503-692-3770

<http://www.wicinc.com/portland.html>

Also LA and Bay area. Refractories (Isofrax, Fiberfrax, Durablanket and Magnaboard), and can custom-make refractory products (although costly).

Zircar Refractory Composites Inc.

P.O. Box 489
Florida, NY, 10921 USA
845-651-2200 (ask for Mike Cauda)

<http://www.zrci.com/>

Luminar Mold Mix 6 (be sure to visit the site for user's guides and other artist information), many different types of mold-making and kilnforming refractories